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M/V Elizabeth M. Recovered

PITTSBURGH – The US Coast Guard Marine Safety Office, the US Army Corps of Engineers and the towing industry continued recovery operations at Montgomery Locks and Dam today. This morning the towboat M/V Elizabeth M. was raised by two large floating cranes using the lifting slings placed yesterday. While placing pumps to lighten the towboat's load, salvage company employees located the body of the missing crew member in the Engine Room which was inaccessible to divers during their search in late January. The Elizabeth M., with the assistance of the cranes, is being towed to a landing downstream where the body will be removed by the coroner's office and the boat can be more thoroughly inspected as part of the Coast Guard's on-going accident investigation.

Recovery operations for the four barges sunk on the dam are expected to resume next week, river conditions permitting.